Entry of foreign vobacco companies into India

S225. SHRI V. HANUMANTHA RAO: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have granted permission to large foreign tobacco companies to produce pro. ducts in India;

(b) if so, the details theerof;

(c) the location of such plants;

(d) whether any stipulation been made on the minimum quality of tobacco to be used by such firms;

(e) whether such companies are owned 100% by foreign companies; and

(f) the details of ownership of such foreign tobacco companies?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY. OF INDUSTRY (SHRIMATI KRISHNA SAHI): (a) to (f) Since the announcement of New Industrial Policy, only M/s. R.J. Reynolds Tobacco International Switzerland have been given approval in April, 1993 for setting up a joint venture in India with 50% foreign equity participation amounting to Rs. 23 crores for processing/blending of tobacco and manufacture of 5 billion cigarettes per annum, both for domestic sales and exports at a permissible location in India. The Indian partners of the project are, Shri Mahendra K. Modi of M/s. Modi Enterprises and Shri' Hemant Sonawala, Dqraty Chairman, the Minditron Group, Bombay. The approval given to the company is, subject • to the condition that it Shall make maximum use of local tobacco. It has been noted that *of* the total estimated requirement over five years, only 6% of the requirement of tobacco will be imported The, company has projected net tobacco exports of 10,800, tonnes valued Us $74 million over 5 years.

Reliance Filaments Ud

8226. SHRI O. P. KOHLI: Will the PRIME. MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether the attehtion of Go-vernment has been drawn to the news item appearing in the Indian Express, dated 29th April, 1995 under the caption 'Canal disappears on Reliance land, then reappears";

(b) if so, the reaction of Government thereto and in what manner Reliance Filaments Ltd. (REL) got its land in the Union Territory of Dadra and Nagar Haveli converted from "agricultural" to "non-agricultural";

(c) whether an inquiry has been held into the matter and the out come thereof; and

(d) iT not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF INDUSTRY (SHRIMATI KRISHNA SAHI): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) to (d) Reliance Filaments got its land survey No. 366 and 371 converted from agricultural to non-agricultural as per orders passed by the competent authority under section 42 of the Dadra and Nagar Haveli Land Revenue Administration Regulation, 1871. The then Executive Engineer (Irrigation) had certified' that no Canal is passing through the survey No. 366 and 371. of Village Kharad-pada. RFL has not applied for closure of any canal in the above survey numbers.

Problems of domestic industry

8227. SHRI RAMDAS AGARWAL; Will the PMIE MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) what Steps Government have taken till date to solve the .problems of the domestic industry especially relating to surcharge in corporate tax and investment incentives;

(b) the details of the proposals worked out till date in this regard; and

(c) by when these proposals are likely to be implemented?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF INDUSTRY (SHRIMATI KRISHNA SAHI): (a) to (c) Initiatives taken by Government to reform almost all areas of industrial activity viz industrial policy, foreign investment, trade and exchange rate regime, fiscal policy, capital market, financial sector are aimed at en-courasing entrepreneurship, allowing free flow of foreign investment, promoting modernisation and technological upgradation to bring reduction in costs, improve efficiency, productivity and enhance competitiveness of the industry with a view to boost industrial production and exports. Tax rates for domestic companies were reduced to 40% in the Union Budget 1994-95. The surcharge of 15% on the income tax of a domestic company, if its total income exceeds Rs. 75000 has not been removed due to revenue considerations. Investment incentives have been extended in the form of tax holiday to new industrial units in infrastructure sector, power and in backward States.

लघु उद्योग क्षेत्र द्वारा किये जाने वाले निर्यातों में वृद्धि

8228. श्रीमती सुषमा स्वराज :
श्री राम जेठ मलानी :

क्या प्रधान मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि :

(क) क्या यह सच है कि गत तीन वर्षों के दौरान देश के कुल निर्यात में निर्यात मूल्य के रूप में लघु उद्योग क्षेत्र के योगदान का प्रतिशत बढ़ा है ;

(ख) यदि हां तो 1992–93, 1993–94 और 1994–95 के वर्षों में देश के निर्यात में लघु उद्योग क्षेत्र में किये गये निर्यात का अलग-अलग प्रतिशत कितना है ;

(ग) क्या यह भी सच है कि देश में लघु उद्योग क्षेत्र से निर्यात बढ़ाने के लिए उपर्युक्त वर्षों के दौरान समय समय पर बहुत से प्रोत्साहन दिये गये हैं ; और

(घ) यदि हां, तो ऐसे क्या क्या प्रोत्साहन कब कब घोषित किए गए हैं ?

उद्योग मंत्रालय में राज्य मंत्री (श्री एम० अरुणाचलम) : (क) कुल निर्यात में लघु उद्योग क्षेत्र के प्रतिशत भाग में 1992-93 में 1993–94 की तुलना में वृद्धि हुई है । वर्ष 1994–95 के आंकड़े उपलब्ध नहीं हैं ।

(ख) निर्यात आंकड़ों के ब्यौरे नीचे दिये गए हैं :—

वर्ष	कुल निर्यात में लघु उद्योग का प्रतिशत भाग

(ग) और (घ) सरकार निर्यात को बढ़ावा देने के लिए लघु उद्योग क्षेत्र को निम्नलिखित लाभ दे रही है :—

(1) चुनिंदा लघु उद्योग एककों को विदेश में होने वाली अंतर्राष्ट्रीय प्रदर्शनियों में प्रायोजित किया जा रहा है । स्थान सम्बन्धी किराये भाड़े, बीमा, प्रति वस्तुओं की हैन्डलिंग और क्लेरियंस संबंधी खर्च सरकार द्वारा वहन किया जाता है। व्यापार संबंधी पूछताछ को लघु उद्योग के निर्माताओं के लाभकारी इस्तेमाल / वाणिज्यिक समझौता के लिए अखिल भारतीय आधार पर परिचारित किया जाता है। चुनिंदा अंतरराष्ट्रीय प्रदर्शनियों में सौदो की भागीदारी 1985 से शुरू हुई ।